United Nations A/67/708–E/2013/4

General Assembly
Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
22 January 2013
English
Original: French

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 25
Operational activities for development

Economic and Social Council
Substantive session of 2013
Geneva, 1-26 July 2013
Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

Letter dated 18 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 9 and 10 November in Marrakesh, the Kingdom of Morocco hosted the International Conference on Gender-Responsive Budgeting, which was organized jointly by the Ministry of the Economy and Finance of Morocco and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). The Conference led to the adoption of the Marrakesh Declaration enclosed herewith (see annex).

The Conference made it possible to capitalize on the progress made thus far and on the commitments of the international community with regard to gender-responsive budgeting and the integration of the principles of equity and equality into budget planning and the assessment of public policy effectiveness. The Conference also saw the launch of the National Centre of Excellence for Learning and Innovation in Gender-Responsive Budgeting.

I should be grateful if you could have the Declaration circulated as an official document of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme and UN-Women, the forthcoming session of the Economic and Social Council and the sixty seventh session of the General Assembly under agenda item 25 concerning operational activities for development.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Loulichki**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 18 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

International Conference on Gender-Responsive Budgeting: "Sharing Knowledge and shaping budgetary policies for the realization of gender equality"

Marrakesh Declaration

We, the participants of the International Conference on Gender-Responsive Budgeting entitled "Sharing Knowledge and shaping budgetary policies for the realization of gender equality", having met at the invitation of the Kingdom of Morocco on 9 and 10 November 2012 in Marrakesh,

Expressing our gratitude to the Kingdom of Morocco for organizing and hosting the Conference and for its active participation and joint initiative with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),

Expressing our appreciation to all of the participants for their attendance and the high standard of the discussions, and expressing our gratitude to the international and regional organizations that attended the Conference,

Noting that the protracted economic downturn caused by the 2008 economic and financial crisis has exacerbated insecurity, disparities and the risk of exclusion and marginalization,

Recognizing that the challenge of financing equality and combating poverty and vulnerability has become more momentous as a result of the crisis, and that austerity measures and budget cuts have affected the financial resources of organizations that promote non-discrimination and gender equality, reducing their capacity to combat discrimination and inequality,

Convinced of the importance of initiatives to create innovative development models ensuring greater sustainability and respect for human dignity,

Stressing the need to rethink the role of the State and of public policy in order to promote a more inclusive and equitable form of sustainable development by identifying clear goals through a results-based approach tailored to the circumstances of each country,

Reaffirming that, at a time when States are required to make their public policies more effective, gender-responsive budgeting offers unique opportunities to focus on the specific needs of women and men by delegating decision-making to the local level in close partnership with the local population,

Emphasizing the fundamental role of democratic stakeholders, namely parliaments, civil society organizations and campaigners for equality, in formulating, implementing, monitoring and assessing gender-responsive budgeting and its impact on the lives of women and men,

Welcoming the progress made by numerous countries in introducing gender-responsive budgeting based on institutional and legislative reforms, which have promoted the irreversible integration of the gender dimension into public policy,

Affirming that in order to realize the development goals, it is necessary to identify new approaches based on balanced development models fostering the equal enjoyment by men and women of their fundamental rights and combating poverty, disparities and exclusion,

Call upon decision makers and the international community to commit to improving financing, capacities, data collection, monitoring and accountability with a view to promoting gender equality through the following means:

- Adopting a universal normative human rights framework and adjusting public policies accordingly;
- Ensuring the compatibility of cross-cutting public policies in the light of the universal and indivisible nature of rights;
- Strengthening performance-based budgeting through the continuous integration of results-based management into Government targets, mandates and programmes open to gender-responsive locally based management;
- Coordinating the work of the stakeholders, comprising the executive, the legislative, the judiciary, civil society and technical and financial partners, through monitoring and evaluation taking into consideration gender-responsive indicators;
- Mobilizing and allocating sufficient funds for development programmes in the context of a funding model based on respect for international conventions and obligations and agreements on human rights, decent work, equality of men and women, environmental sustainability and the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Strengthening an environment conducive to development, knowledge management and sharing, and the exchange of skills and good practices in respect of gender-responsive budgeting, including South-South and triangular cooperation and global initiatives.

Marrakesh, 10 November 2012

United Nations A/67/709–S/2013/42

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
23 January 2013
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 105
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 22 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to draw your attention to the following information:

Armed terrorist groups, in particular the Al-Qaida-affiliated Nusrah Front, continue to commit criminal acts of terrorism. On 21 January 2013, in another cowardly terrorist operation against defenceless civilians, a suicide bomber carried out an attack in the heart of Salamiyah, Hama governorate. This criminal act killed 32 civilians and injured dozens of other innocent civilians, including women and children, and destroyed the national hospital, taking it out of service.

This terrorist attack, which was not the first of its kind to have occurred in this city, was an act of vengeance against the people of Salamiyah, who have rejected terrorism and expressed their opposition to it, and who are determined to preserve their city's security, their property and their children's lives.

Other parts of Syria have also seen an increase in terrorist suicide attacks, one of which targeted a school in Nawa, Dar'a governorate. The terrorists attacked the school and stole diesel fuel used to heat the classrooms. In the current academic year, terrorists have constantly threatened to attack schools throughout Syria unless they suspended classes, because, in the terrorists' view, schools should serve as bases for their operations and schoolchildren should join their ranks. The armed groups recruit children to their ranks and use them to commit the most horrific crimes, and then proudly and publicly boast of this on social networking sites.

Syria reiterates that these terrorists, who boast that they have no nationality or identity, are coming to Syria via certain neighbouring States, in particular Turkey, which has opened its doors unconditionally to every terrorist in the world and allowed them to enter Syria. The Turkish Government has supplied the terrorists with the weapons they are using to attack the Syrian people and commit acts of terrorism in Syria.

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Acts of terrorism and those who support terrorism fall under the provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1373 (2001). The non-application of this resolution to States and Governments that are engaging in terrorism is tantamount to a decision by those States to spread terrorism and stymie the Council's counter-terrorism efforts.

Syria once again calls on the Security Council to condemn the acts of terrorism that are occurring in Syria and other parts of the world, and calls on those States that are preventing the Council from carrying out its tasks and fulfilling its responsibilities to change their positions, which do not serve security and peace, either in Syria or in the rest of the world.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 105 on measures to eliminate international terrorism, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/67/710

General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 January 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 116
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Secretary-General

1. By its resolution 66/294, the General Assembly decided to establish, at its sixty-seventh session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on previous resolutions and evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-third session (A/63/959) and, as a result, issue an updated version of the inventory to be attached to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-seventh session, and also requested the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that had not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-seventh session.

3. The present update report is submitted pursuant to that resolution.

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Annex

Updated inventory/chart of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization*

The updated chart is subject to the comments and conditions indicated in the explanatory note to the original version contained in annex I to document A/62/952/Add.1.

Cluster I: working methods, documentation, agenda, etc.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments in A/62/952/Add.1*	*Update*
G. Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports					
18.	58/316, annex, para. 6 (c) *Also in:* 57/300, para. 20	To take the necessary action to initiate the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to start, on a trial basis, a consultative process with the President of the Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees of the Assembly at the end of the main part of each session of the Assembly, with a view to consolidating reports on related subjects, if decided by the Main Committees	Secretary-General/ President of the General Assembly/ Member States	Consultations have not been held, as there is no applicable decision by the Main Committees	See comments column

* Based on the chart prepared at the sixty-third session, as contained in document A/63/959.

Cluster III: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments in A/62/952/Add.1*	*Update*
H. Provisions related to public relations activities					
23.	60/286, annex, para. 16	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson	President of the General Assembly/ Secretary-General	Ongoing provision. Since the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairs of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions (A/61/483, p. 20, and A/62/608, p. 15). No assistant to the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly has been provided since January 2008. However, the President of the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session has a Deputy Spokesperson/Speechwriter in his Cabinet	The Department of Public Information has organized periodic press conferences by the President of the General Assembly, both to enhance contact with the media and to increase the visibility of the Assembly and its work. Furthermore, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has facilitated the organization of interactive hearings with representatives of civil society before major conferences, summits and other high-level meetings, as mandated, for the same purposes. The Department has also organized informal plenary meetings of the Assembly to hear periodic briefings by the President of the Assembly and the Secretary-General. The Department regularly briefs the media on the Assembly's elections and programme of work. In addition, the Secretary-General has been reporting to the Assembly,

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments in A/62/952/Add.1*	*Update*
					through the Committee on Information, on steps taken to increase the visibility of the Assembly and its work, as mandated.